

Large game species such as bear, moose, elk and deer were found to be abundant in this primitive area where man has not yet succeeded in exploiting nature to her detriment.

The party returned, with a large number of specimens and a great enthusiasm for California sunshine, on the afternoon of October 2.



LOWER CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION REACHES SANTA ROSALIA

THE ONLY communication thus far received from the Academy's expedition to Baja California is a postcard expressing hope that everything is going well at the Academy! However, as the card was mailed from Santa Rosalia on September 30, it is assumed that the party had reached that point, approximately half way down the peninsula, without mishap. We hope to have a more extensive report on this expedition in the next NEWS LETTER.



APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting, October 17, 1941, approved the applications of Mr. Robert P. Dempster and Mr. Earl C. Jansen for MEMBERSHIP and Mr. Donald De Coss, Miss Patricia Greenly, Mr. Edwin Angus McKinlay, Mr. William L. Swisher, and Mr. Walter Thomsen for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after October 30, 1941, they will be considered elected.



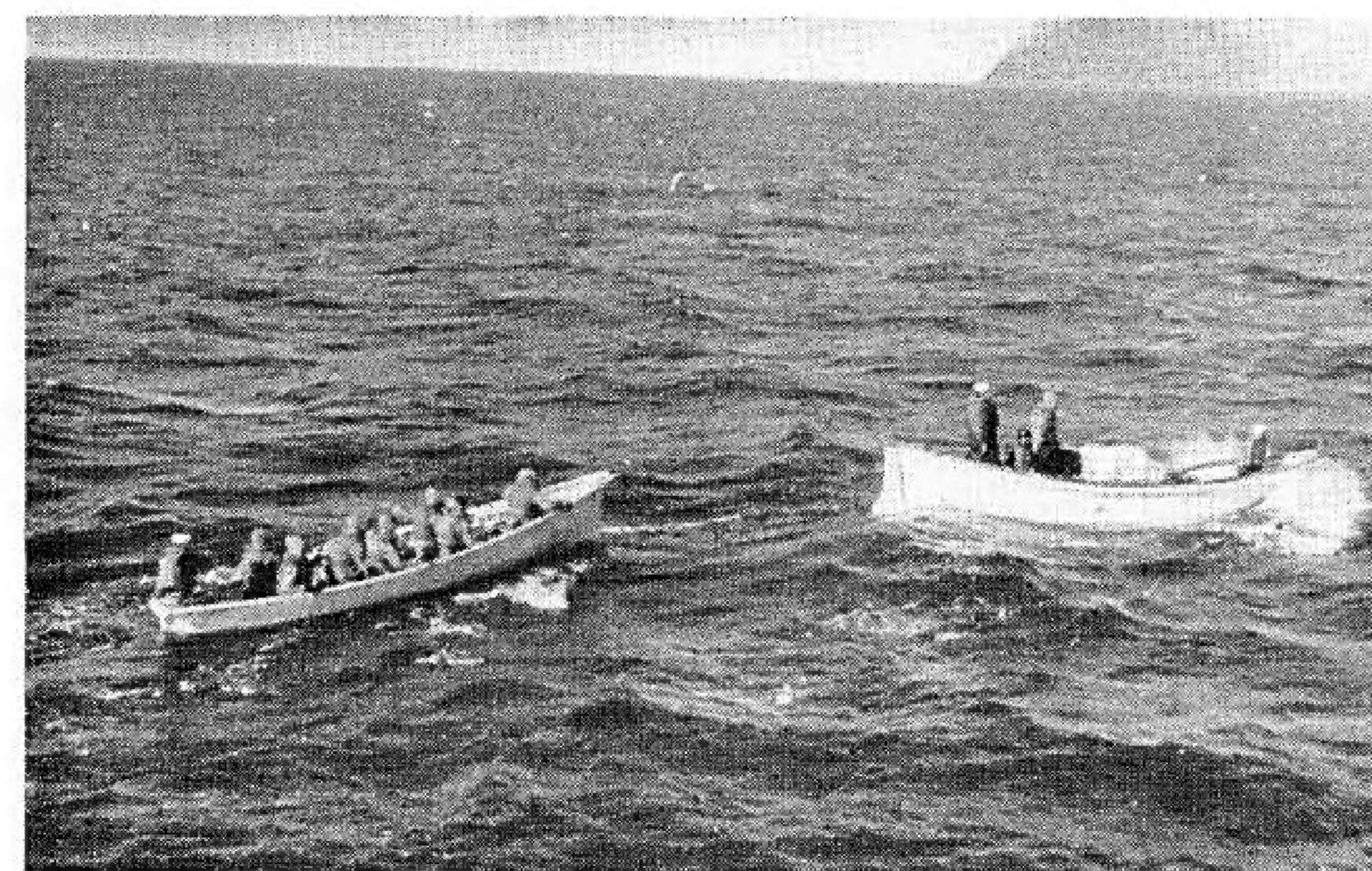
MEETING OF STUDENT MEMBERS

ON Friday evening, November 14, the student members of the Academy will meet in Room 214, Simson African Hall, at 8:00 o'clock. After a short business meeting the group will adjourn to the Department of Paleontology, where under the guidance of Dr. G. Dallas Hanna, Curator, and Dr. Leo G. Hertlein, Assistant Curator of the Department, they will see specimens of the plant and animal life inhabiting western North America some millions of years ago.

ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

Number 23

November, 1941



WHERE WEST MEETS EAST

Riding the International Boundary Between American
and Russian Diomed Islands

Scaife Lecture on November 5

GLIMPSES OF NORTHERN SEAS

By THOMAS GORDON THOMPSON
Director, University of Washington
Oceanographic Laboratories

Scientific exploration and adventure in a region that has suddenly become
of vital interest to America. Illustrated with slides and motion pictures.

AUDITORIUM PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

245 Market Street, San Francisco • 8 P.M.

Published Monthly by

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



November Announcement

THE REGULAR NOVEMBER MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in the Auditorium of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 245 Market Street, San Francisco, on Wednesday evening, November 5, 1941, at eight o'clock. The business meeting will be brief and will be followed by the second of the fall series of lectures on The Beauties of Nature, on the Walter B. Scaife Foundation. The speaker of the evening, Dr. Thomas Gordon Thompson, will take as his subject, "Glimpses of Northern Seas."

Dr. Thompson, a scientific man of international repute, is one of those fortunate individuals who earns his living doing what he most likes to do. An inveterate lover of ships and the sea, as director of the University of Washington Oceanographic Laboratories he has spent years in the scientific exploration of the northeast Pacific and adjacent waters. Chiefly he works aboard the University's specially designed "floating laboratory," the Motorship *Catalyst*, of which he is commander; but on occasion he has accompanied a United States Government vessel as scientific observer.

In this lecture he will tell of an expedition to the Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea and the Arctic Ocean aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Northland* in the summer of 1938. Motion pictures of walrus hunting and of Eskimo life enliven the narrative of scientific investigations.

Dr. Thompson's chief assistant on this trip was Dr. Joseph Goodman, well known to Academy members as the present Assistant Superintendent of the Steinhart Aquarium.

Dr. Thompson is Chairman of the National Research Council Committee on Oceanography of the Pacific, is a past-president of the Oceanographic Society of the Pacific, and was a representative of the National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences at the meetings of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics at Stockholm in 1930, at Lisbon in 1933, and at Edinburgh in 1936.



ACADEMY EXPEDITION RETURNS FROM REMOTEST IDAHO

ON SEPTEMBER 3, as mentioned in the last NEWS LETTER, four members of the Academy's staff left San Francisco for eastern Idaho where the following month was devoted to a biological exploration of the region of the upper portion of the Clearwater River. The personnel of the expedition consisted of Dr. G. Dallas Hanna, Curator of the Department of Paleontology; Dr. Robert T. Orr, Assistant Curator

of Birds and Mammals; Mr. Anatole Loukashkin, Research Associate in Birds and Mammals, and Mr. Cecil Tose of the Department of Exhibits.

The Clearwater River is one of the larger tributaries of the Snake River. It was along the Middle Fork of this stream, not far from where the Academy's explorations were carried on, that Lewis and Clark passed on their journey to the Pacific between the years 1804 and 1806. Although investigated by these explorers at this early date the region has been almost entirely neglected since. It was a desire to learn more of the occurrence and distribution of the mammals of this region that



IDAHO EXPEDITION PAUSES ALONG THE CLEARWATER RIVER

prompted this trip. Other types of life, however, including birds and land snails, as well as botanical specimens, were not neglected.

A new General Motors "suburban" truck purchased for the Academy by a friend afforded a means of transportation for the party and its equipment. Unfortunately for members of the expedition, this year proved to be one of the wettest in the history of the State of Idaho. During their stay but five days were recorded without rain or snow, or both. As a result a good portion of the time was necessarily devoted to the problem of drying specimens once they were secured and prepared, not to mention keeping the investigators warm and dry in a decidedly cold and damp environment.

Two base camps were established, the first part of the month being spent in the vicinity of Selway Falls at a relatively low altitude, and the latter part of the period on the summit of the mountains feeding the Selway Fork of the Clearwater River, at a location 65 miles by road from the nearest railroad or post office. A fairly complete cross-section of the fauna and flora was obtained. The area proved to be very interesting, containing a peculiar mixture of Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast forms of animal and plant life which overlap there. Several species of land snails new to science were collected.